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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/656,392	09/05/2003	Trebor Heminway	MKPA-107US	9588
23122	7590	05/13/2005	EXAMINER	
RATNERPRESTIA P O BOX 980 VALLEY FORGE, PA 19482-0980			STONER, KILEY SHAWN	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1725	
DATE MAILED: 05/13/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/656,392

Applicant(s)

HEMINWAY ET AL.

Examiner

Kiley Stoner

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 April 2005.
2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) 9-15 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
7) ☒ Claim(s) 8 is/are objected to.
8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9-5-03.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election without traverse of Group I (claims 1-8) in the reply filed on 4-29-05 is acknowledged.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shiga et al. (EP-0346596A2) or US Patent (4,055,683). Shiga et al. teaches a solder preform for attaching an optical fiber having a diameter to a fiber attach pad, the solder preform comprising a body including solder at least on a bottom surface thereof, the body having a groove extending along a first face from a first end to a second, the groove being larger in size than the optical fiber to allow alignment of the optical fiber within the groove (abstract and Figures); the height of the groove is larger than the diameter of the optical fiber, allowing a range of clearance above and below the optical fiber (abstract and Figures); the width of the groove is larger than the diameter of the optical fiber, allowing a range of clearance on at least a side of the optical fiber (abstract and Figures); (abstract and Figures) the body is formed as a geometric solid with at least

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one substantially flat face; and the geometric solid is selected from a group consisting of a rectangular box, a cubical box, a cylinder, a semi-cylinder, a semi-sphere, a pyramid, and a cone (abstract and Figures); the body is formed from a metallic material "solder" (abstract and Figures).

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Boisgontier et al. (4,984,866). Boisgontier et al. teaches a solder preform for attaching an optical fiber having a diameter to a fiber attach pad, the solder preform comprising a body including solder at least on a bottom surface thereof, the body having a groove extending along a first face from a first end to a second, the groove being larger in size than the optical fiber to allow alignment of the optical fiber within the groove (column 12, lines 16-21 and Figures); the height of the groove is larger than the diameter of the optical fiber, allowing a range of clearance above and below the optical fiber (column 12, lines 16-21 and Figures); the width of the groove is larger than the diameter of the optical fiber, allowing a range of clearance on at least a side of the optical fiber (column 12, lines 16-21 and Figures); the body is formed as a geometric solid with at least one substantially flat face; and the geometric solid is selected from a group consisting of a rectangular box, a cubical box, a cylinder, a semi-cylinder, a semi-sphere, a pyramid, and a cone (column 12, lines 16-21 and Figures); the body is formed from a metallic material "solder" (column 12, lines 16-21 and Figures).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shiga et al. (EP-0346596A2) or US Patent (4,055,683) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Enochs (4,702,547). Shiga et al. teaches all of the limitations of the claims except that the body is formed from a glass material. Enochs teaches the body is formed from a glass "silicon" material (Summary of Invention and column 4, line 56-column 5, line 30). The gold layer formed on the surface of the silicon retaining member constitutes the solder of claim 1. It is obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that the solder could have been adhered to either the pad or the retaining member since both surfaces are relative to each other. At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the silicon member of Enochs with the solder member of Shiga et al. in order to form a retaining member that maintains its shape during the soldering process.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 8 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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Conclusion

The prior art of record that is cited as of interest is presented on the form-892.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kiley Stoner whose telephone number is (571) 272-1183. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday (7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tom Dunn can be reached on Monday-Friday at (571) 272-1171. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

KILEY S. STONER
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Kyle Stoner 5/11/05